

# Fergusson Island

## Waluma Guest House

Waluma Guest House is nestled in between the two sides of Waluma village on a beautiful beach front location. Waluma boasts a superb mime group and dance troupe! You can swim off the beach in the warm waters. The elaborate war canoe with hoisted sail is used to travel to snorkelling sites. Local hot springs (smaller than at DeiDei, and not as warm) and a hot volcanic river feed into the ocean, and can be visited for a spa experience.



### Accommodation

A single thatched hut with three separate rooms with beautiful local carvings and decorations. Mattresses and mosquito netting is provided. A lovely thatched eating area. Separate pit toilet and bucket shower hut. There is a small wind house to relax in that looks out to sea. Overnight maximum Group Size: 10 (Accommodation described from 2010.)

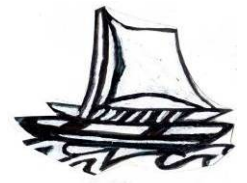


### Experiences

A highlight of Waluma is the mime and theatre group, which act out tales of village life in beautiful costume. The drumming and dance group is also excellent. A steep hike takes you to naturally scorched landscape with hot steam vents, a sensational view and paths through primary rainforest. The local food is served in traditional woven baskets at Waluma, and you can weave your own plate.

### Experiences include:

- ❖ Traditional entertainment
- ❖ War canoe rides
- ❖ Snorkelling around Elvis island
- ❖ Hikes
- ❖ Basket weaving
- ❖ Hot pools and rocks
- ❖ Swimming



## How to get there

1.5 hr PMV bus ride from Alotau to East Cape; 3 hr dingy ride to Waluma. You should book your dingy travel two days in advance. It is also advisable to bring 60 litres of petrol for your return trip.

It is best to have a booking through George (Guest House manager), Napatana Lodge or Milne Bay Tourism Bureau at least 2 days in advance.



## What to bring

In addition to insect repellent, first aid and medical kit, don't forget toilet paper, tea bags, spices (salt, pepper), and waterproof bags for all of your gear! Epoxy resin and a small tool kit are also very useful.



## Health, safety & cultural tips

These village experiences are authentic and therefore can be a bit challenging for people used to a sedentary lifestyle. Milne Bay Province is safe for tourists due to the mainly matrilineal culture. The culture is very polite to guests and you will be well cared for. However, time frames will be different to what you are used to and the general amenities more sparse. Sundays are a day of rest so travel and activities are restricted.

Remember that your financial contribution will protect biodiversity and support local conservation and local values, but not western style accommodation.

Make sure to ask how much your stay will cost you so that there are no surprises (each activity has a cost). Although prices are standardised, managers feel it is rude to mention money upon your arrival.

Refer to the 'Visitor Information Guide' for more information about travel in remote areas, what to bring, and how to organise your trip.



## Travel combinations with other villages

Waluma Guest House is close to Gomwa Guest House and DeiDei Guest House. The three village experiences can be easily combined. It is recommended that you first travel by boat to Waluma Village; 1 hr walk from Waluma to DeiDei Village; then organise a canoe from DeiDei to Gomwa Village. Waluma Village is the most remote location, and it is easier to organise return travel from Gomwa to Alotau.



## Managers

Susan and George

## Booking details and contacts

**Waluma Guest House** (George, manager)

Phone: (+675) 73631708

**Napatana Lodge** (Gretta Kwasnicka, Owner)

[www.napatanalodge.com](http://www.napatanalodge.com)

Phone: (+675) 6410588

Email: [info@napatanalodge.com](mailto:info@napatanalodge.com)

cc: [gretta@daltron.com](mailto:gretta@daltron.com)

**Milne Bay Tourism Bureau**

Phone: (675) 641 1503

Fax: (675) 641 0132

Email: [infotourism@milnebay.gov.pg](mailto:infotourism@milnebay.gov.pg)



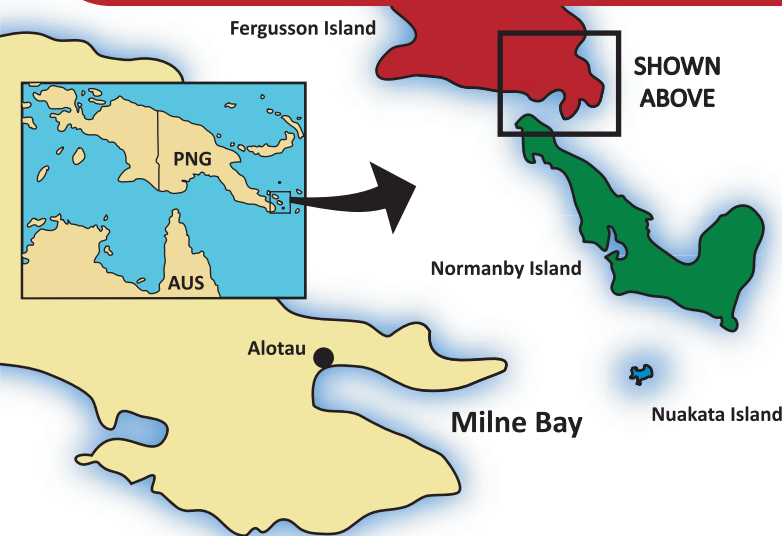
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## KEY ATTRACTIONS

All attractions and activities must be carried out with local guides. This can be arranged through your Guest House.

- 1 Elagege:** 6 hr return; challenging mountain hike from Gomwa Guest House. Very steep inclines and dense jungle. Stunning views of surrounding areas from the top with a cool sea breeze.
- 2 Galubwa:** 7 hr return; moderate to strenuous walk from Gomwa Guest House. The terrain is mostly flat with some undulation and some steep inclines. You will journey through jungle, cross cool streams, and walk past local villages and gardens. The walk to Galubwa village is only moderately difficult; enjoy lunch at Galubwa village. From Galubwa, hike through rainforest to the waterfall (steep ascent) to jump from 6-12m into a cool and deep pool below.
- 3 Hot Springs:** 1hr return; easy and flat walk from DeiDei Guest House through scrub to spurting geysers, hot springs, boiling mud pools and thermal stream. Bathe in the thermal stream and cook food in the hot springs.
- 4 Budoya Market:** 2hr return; easy and flat walk from DeiDei Guest House to Budoya Market. You will pass local villages, schools, and churches and arrive at the local market. A good variety of fresh produce and a great cultural experience.
- 5 DeiDei to Waluma:** 1hr (one way); easy and flat walk from DeiDei Guest House to Waluma Guest House past local villages and gardens.
- 6 Swimming:** Swim from Waluma Guest House along the coast and experience underwater thermal vents and the mouth of a thermal stream coming out to sea. A unique swimming experience in hot sea water.
- 7 Snorkelling:** 3 hr return; travel by traditional war canoe from Waluma Guest House to Elvis Island and Guiya. Jump off the canoe into crystal clear blue waters to snorkel over reefs and around Elvis Island. You will come ashore at Guiya village with stunning white sand beach. Strong current and some wave action.
- 8 Steam vents:** 3hr scenic; moderate to strenuous hike from the Waluma beach to mountain ridge. A few steep inclines followed by a flat walk past hot steam vents and great views. Steep descent back to the beach followed by a canoe ride back to Waluma Guest House.



### LEGEND:

Guesthouse	Market	Hot springs
Hiking trail	Snorkelling	Swimming
Canoe trail	Fishing	Thermal vents
Reef		
Mangrove		
Canoeing		
Waterfall		
Crocodiles		
Traditional entertainment		